

DOCKET NO. US010217 (PHIL 06-10217)
SERIAL NO. 09/841,665
PATENT

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) A method of controlling plural lighting devices with a single remote control comprising the steps of:
associating, one by one, each of the plural lighting devices with the remote control;
associating, one by one, each of the plural lighting devices associated with the remote control with at least one of a particular function and a particular key on the remote control; and
accepting a user confirmation acknowledging the association of each of the plural lighting devices in response to a visual confirmation performed by each of the plural lighting devices upon selection of each of the plural lighting devices on the remote control.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the plural lighting devices communicate with the remote control by means of a carrier sense multiple access protocol.
3. (Canceled).
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the visual confirmation step includes a predefined sequence of on/off occurrences.

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5. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for controlling plural lighting devices over a wireless connection, the apparatus comprising:

a processor for providing commands to said plurality of lighting devices over the wireless connection in a normal mode, and

a means for switching between an enumeration mode and the normal mode, said enumeration mode being utilized to associate said plural devices with said apparatus in response to a visual confirmation performed by each of the plural lighting devices upon selection of each of the plural lighting devices by said processor.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said means for switching only switches upon receipt of a confirmation step from a user.

7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising software for binding at least one of specific functions and specific key sequences from a remote control with specific ones of said plural lighting devices.

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8. (Previously Presented) A method of utilizing a wireless lighting control protocol comprising the steps of:

providing a standardized command set for facilitating command and control between a master device and plural slave lighting devices; and

interposing a layer of software between said command set and a software application, said layer of software including means for initialization and binding of the plural slave lighting devices and the master device in response to a visual confirmation performed by each of the plural slave lighting devices upon selection of each of the plural slave lighting devices on the master device.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of polling each of the slave devices individually and sequentially to thereby associate each of said slave devices with said master device.

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10. (Previously Presented) A method of associating each of plural slave devices with a master remote control comprising the steps of:

communicating a visual signal at each of the slave devices indicating the presence of each of said slave devices upon selection of each of the slave devices on the master remote control, and

accepting a user confirmation acknowledging that said device is to be associated with at least one of said master remote control, a particular function of said master remote control, and a particular key sequence of said master remote control.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein said master and each of said slave devices communicate utilizing a Digital Addressable Lighting Interface (DALI) standard protocol and a wireless communications channel.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the lighting devices communicate with the remote control using a Digital Addressable Lighting Interface (DALI) protocol.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein:
the DALI protocol is supported by an application layer; and
the remote control comprises a network layer, a data link layer, and a physical layer that are transparent to the application layer.

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14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the data link layer and the physical layer support Bluetooth communications with the lighting devices.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the processor is capable of identifying at least one of the devices and assigning a short address to the at least one identified device while in the enumeration mode.

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein:
at least one of the devices is capable of providing a visual indication when the short address is assigned to the device; and
the processor is capable of receiving confirmation from a user in response to the visual indication.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the master device comprises a remote control, and further comprising associating at least one of the slave devices with at least one of a particular function and a particular key on the remote control.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein initializing and binding one of the slave devices to the master device comprises assigning a short address to the slave device.

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19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the visual signal comprises one of the devices flashing on and off.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the visual signal comprises one of the devices blinking off.

21. (Previously Presented) A method of associating a plurality of slave devices with a master remote control comprising the steps of:

communicating a visual signal at each of the slave devices indicating the initialization of each of said slave devices upon selection of each of the slave devices on the master remote control; and

communicating a user indication at the master remote control that each said slave device is to be associated with at least one of said master remote control, a particular function of said master remote control, and a particular key sequence of said master remote control.